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on Coordination**ACC/1994/21
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**REPORT OF THE CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE ON PROGRAMME
AND OPERATIONAL QUESTIONS ON ITS FOURTH SESSION**

(New York, 11-14 October 1994)

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INTRODUCTION

1. The Consultative Committee on Programme and Operational Questions (CCPOQ) held its fourth session at United Nations Headquarters from 11 to 14 October 1994. The agenda for the session is contained in annex I to the present report and the list of participants in annex II.

I. MATTERS FOR CONSIDERATION BY THE ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE ON COORDINATION

A. Proposed agenda, date and venue for the next meeting of CCPOQ

2. CCPOQ recommended to the Administrative Committee on Coordination (ACC) that the fifth session be held at Geneva from 30 January to 3 February 1995, with the following agenda:

1. Overall policy issues:

Division of labour within the United Nations system, including the regional dimensions of cooperation.

2. Programme coordination:

(a) Follow-up to global conferences:

(i) Modalities of follow-up to global conferences and development of common system-wide responses;

(ii) Implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development (Cairo, September 1994);

(b) Drug control (ACC discussion paper);

(c) Poverty alleviation;

(d) Science and technology for development.

3. Operational activities for development:

(a) Implementation of General Assembly resolution 47/199;

(b) Resource flows and trends for operational activities.

4. Other matters:

- (a) ACC biennial report on programmes and resources of the United Nations system for 1994-1995;
- (b) Draft ACC comments on JIU reports;
- (c) Role and functioning of CCPOQ.

3. CCPOQ also noted that it would require an inter-sessional meeting in late April 1995 to review the draft report of the Secretary-General on the comprehensive triennial policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system (see para. 36 below).

B. Subcommittee on Nutrition

4. At the request of the ACC Organizational Committee (OC) at its second regular session of 1993, CCPOQ reviewed the functioning of the Subcommittee on Nutrition in the light of the previous recommendations of OC and on the basis of the report of the Subcommittee on its twenty-first session, which was held in New York from 7 to 11 March 1994. Noting that the Subcommittee would apply, as appropriate, the OC decisions on standard procedures for the functioning of the ACC subsidiary machinery, CCPOQ endorsed the various proposals made by the Subcommittee concerning its structure, functioning, policies and programmes.

II. WORK OF CCPOQ

A. Action taken and decisions adopted

5. The Committee approved the dates and venues for the forthcoming sessions of five ACC subcommittees (see paras. 57, 59, 63, 65 and 68 below).

B. Summary of discussions

1. Operational activities for development

(a) Implementation of General Assembly resolution 47/199

6. The Secretary provided an information note to the Committee, containing Economic and Social Council resolution 1994/33 and decision 1994/293, as well as excerpts from statements made by delegations during the Council's high-level segment on operational activities of the United Nations system. The Committee was also briefed by the representative of the World Food Programme (WFP) on the follow-up to the high-level meeting of the Joint Consultative Group on Policy (JCGP), which was held at Dhaka in February 1994.

(i) Resident coordinator system

7. The Committee reviewed a paper prepared by the Secretary on the role and functions of resident coordinators of the United Nations system's operational activities for development (ACC/1994/POQ/CRP.19).

8. It took note of the annex to the document, comprising a background record of the evolution of the concept of the resident coordinator system, and agreed to its utilization for reference purposes by member organizations. The CCPOQ secretariat would, accordingly, prepare a final text, with a revised title, and circulate it to CCPOQ members.

9. The Committee decided to entrust the CCPOQ Working Group on the Resident Coordinator System with the responsibility of finalizing an updated and consolidated statement on the role and functions of the resident coordinator system, for submission to CCPOQ at its first regular session of 1995. The statement should be drafted as concisely as possible and address first the resident coordinator system and then the terms of reference of the resident coordinator. In addition, the Working Group should develop an operational set of examples of "best practices" at the country level with respect to the role of the resident coordinator in representing the United Nations system as a whole. This could be based on input and guidance from resident coordinators, as well as from agency representatives, and possibly from field visits. The Working Group was also invited, in this regard, to examine the resident coordinator system's relationship with the Bretton Woods institutions and the full involvement of the smaller technical agencies. The operational guidelines would be field-tested during the course of 1995.

10. The Committee reviewed a consultant's analysis of the 1993 annual reports of the resident coordinators (ACC/1994/POQ/CRP.20 and addendum) and noted that there was a need to improve the quality, focus and coverage of the annual reports of the resident coordinators. Several suggestions were offered on how this could be achieved, including through: (a) emphasis on collegial preparation under the responsibility of the resident coordinator; (b) focus on selected themes and (c) more substantive usage and response by the United Nations development system as a whole, including acknowledgements and comments by individual organizations. It was agreed that the United Nations would effect the overall analysis of the 1994 annual reports and the CCPOQ secretariat an analysis of other agencies' views and observations.

11. The United Nations reported on its own analysis of the 1993 reports which showed that the United Nations system was being called upon to respond both to increasing country specificities and to the need for closer substantive cooperation and complementarity within the United Nations system, in order to bring about a more coherent multi-disciplinary approach. Many developing countries, particularly the least developed, are also requesting the resident coordinator to play a larger role in the development process and to provide advice and assistance on broader development issues. Relatively more advanced developing countries are emphasizing the role of the system as a provider of technological access, particularly advanced technologies. The broadening range of responsibilities of the resident coordinator system also suggests that its profile in each country would need to be specifically tailored to the context and content of the functions expected.

12. The need to provide resources - both human and financial - to the resident coordinator system was examined. The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) was currently

studying, as part of its biennial budget exercise, the costs of the exercise of the resident coordinator's function by the resident representative. It was agreed that innovative ways needed to be developed to finance the resident coordinator system, and that this was a matter which, in due course, should be brought to the attention of ACC.

13. It was agreed to follow up the consultant's recommendations regarding (a) consolidation of the ACC guidelines on the functioning of the resident coordinator system; (b) strengthening headquarters support to the system and (c) better utilization visits by resident coordinators to headquarters cities, including through the involvement of regional offices/regional commissions and by correspondence. The recommendations regarding training and standardization of software would be referred respectively to the CCPOQ Advisory Panel on Operational Activities Training and to the Information Systems Coordination Committee (ISCC). The Committee took note with interest of a "Message from Turin" to the CCPOQ Chairperson, providing the views of participants at the Thirteenth Field Coordination Workshop on the role of United Nations system headquarters in promoting and supporting coordination at the field level (ACC/1994/POQ/INF.18).

14. It was agreed that the consultant's analysis and the Committee's review thereof should be edited and circulated to resident coordinators and other field representatives as an example of the use being made of the annual reports and the Committee's desire for feedback from the field.

(ii) Country strategy note

15. The representative of the United Nations presented a progress report to the Committee on the status of implementation of the country strategy note, which was due to be evaluated for the triennial policy review in 1995. To date, 62 countries had chosen to prepare country strategy notes, another 62 had not yet taken a decision and 7 had elected not to start the process. Only one country had fully completed a country strategy note. About 25 countries were in the process of preparing or finalizing them. An informal status report was circulated for the information of the Committee.

16. It was noted that in a number of cases the stage of preparations appeared to consist mainly of United Nations contributions with scarce, if any, input from government authorities. None the less, joint efforts were in evidence in other cases, and a number of national workshops on country strategy notes were taking place.

17. The Committee discussed the reasons why some Governments had declined to start the country strategy note, the relationship between national development planning and the country strategy note, as well as the relationship between the country strategy note and individual country programming of United Nations system organizations. The Committee also discussed whether a wider application of the country strategy note should be actively promoted or whether alternative United Nations country strategy documents should be pursued, if Governments were not interested in the country strategy note, through inter-agency sectoral or thematic groups. The Committee agreed to revert to this issue at its first session in 1995.

(iii) Programme approach

18. The Secretary introduced a paper on evaluation in the context of the programme approach (ACC/1994/POQ/CRP.21), noting that it was imperative for the guiding principles of a monitoring and evaluation methodology to be approved by CCPOQ at the latest by its first regular session of 1995. He noted that, at this juncture, CCPOQ needed to give clear guidance to the Inter-Agency Working Group on Evaluation, which would be meeting in Geneva from 17 to 19 October 1994.

19. In discussing the issues related to the problem of the national programme evaluation framework, CCPOQ members noted that variations still existed in the operationalization of the programme approach itself. It was recognized that the programme approach needed to be interpreted differently at different levels of intervention, which implied different methods of monitoring and evaluation. Some participants felt the paper should have addressed the link between evaluation at the national programme level, the programme support level and programmes or projects carried out by the United Nations system in support of these programmes, for which the system had to retain substantive and financial accountability.

20. The guiding principles would need to take into account the individual requirements of organizations and their adaptation to integrated national monitoring and evaluation processes, as well as the desire to reduce the reporting burden on national Governments.

21. The Committee requested the CCPOQ Secretary and such members as would be available in Geneva to present to the Working Group meeting the issues raised in the conference room paper and to agree with the Working Group on a finalization process, in order to ensure approval of the guiding principles by CCPOQ at its next session.

(iv) National execution

22. The linkages between the programme approach and national execution were underscored by the Committee. It was recalled that the issue had been discussed both at informal inter-agency consultations (Turin, 28-30 April 1994) and at the CCPOQ inter-sessional (third) meeting (Geneva, 2-3 May 1994).

23. The Committee considered it important to promote the accountability of national executing agencies. It was noted in this connection that the under-utilization of TSS-2 was an example of the need to prescribe this clearly in the guidelines on national execution.

(v) Decentralization

24. The Committee noted that the delegation of authority and the movement of staff and capacity to the country level have been seen as areas for individual organizations to pursue, but some degree of comparability and harmonization of levels of decentralization could be pursued. The Committee took note of the UNDP "decentralization initiative" as a possible starting-point.

(vi) Harmonization of programming cycles

25. The representative of WFP informed the Committee that JCGP had recently reaffirmed its view that enhanced collaboration at the country level and harmonization were at the heart of its work. It was considered that simplification and procedures designed to lighten the administrative burden of programming on Governments was important. The process should begin with the steps of the programming cycle relating to programme appraisal and formulation as outlined in General Assembly resolution 47/199.

26. The representative of WFP reported that 27 countries had already achieved harmonization of programme cycles; 55 countries were expected to achieve harmonization with some adjustment; and 20 countries involved in emergencies were unlikely to achieve harmonization in the near future.

(vii) Simplification and harmonization of rules and procedures

27. The representative of WFP informed the Committee that JCGP had agreed that it was most viable to look at those areas of agreement (such as principles of programme approach and national execution and, in future, evaluation) that could be included in a system-wide manual of common procedures. Further progress in that regard was expected.

(viii) Common premises

28. The Committee noted that JCGP had finalized an agreement on the sharing of premises in country offices, including the leasing modality and equitable cost and space sharing. It was informed that JCGP was in the final stages of setting up the necessary managerial arrangements.

(ix) Evaluation and monitoring

29. The Secretary introduced a note on evaluation and monitoring (ACC/1994/POQ/CRP.23), expressing the concern that adequate response may not yet have been made by the system as a whole to the request of the General Assembly for reorientation of evaluation and monitoring systems to outputs, impacts and performances, as well as for streamlining and rationalization, enhanced accountability at the field level and feedback and training systems.

30. The Committee agreed that there was a need for a fully representative and responsible focal point within the system. It decided that the joint meeting with the Inter-Agency Working Group on Evaluation on 19 October 1994 should develop a response process to this issue at the system-wide policy level. CCPOQ will revert to this matter for a fuller review at its next session.

(x) Operational activities training

31. The Director of Training of the International Training Centre of the International Labour Organization (ILO) at Turin, as Secretary of the Advisory Panel, reported on the results of the Panel's three-day meeting in Turin from 12 to 14 September 1994. He noted in particular the broad mix of participants from CCPOQ and the Consultative Committee on Administrative Questions (Personnel and General Administrative Questions) (CCAQ(PER)) and the resulting comprehensive strategic and technical evaluation carried out. The Advisory Panel's report

(ACC/1994/POQ/CRP.22) contained numerous recommendations on the future organization of operational activities training as well as proposals for a new name and terms of reference for the Advisory Panel and for promotional action by the CCPOQ Chairperson.

32. The Committee expressed general satisfaction with the progress and impact of operational activities training in its three dimensions: field coordination workshops for United Nations system representatives; follow-up workshops at the country level; and the capacity-building programme in project formulation and management through the "training of trainers" courses. It considered that participation of national officials in the field coordination workshops should be deferred for the time being and greater effort made at the country level through the convening of national follow-up workshops.

33. Noting the response provided by the national capacity-building programme to General Assembly resolution 47/199, the Committee emphasized the need for monitoring by CCPOQ, based on a systematic feedback of information on the programme, in order to continue to ensure that no overlap existed with the agencies' own programmes in sectoral human resource development. In this respect, the Turin Centre was requested to provide a work programme and budget estimate for the "training of trainers" programme to CCPOQ at its next session. The potential for greater synergy of training between United Nations agencies, based on generic course modules in areas such as the programme approach, monitoring and evaluation, and national execution was welcomed.

34. The Committee approved the various recommendations of the Advisory Panel and its new name of "CCPOQ Advisory Panel on Operational Activities Training", but deferred approval of the revised terms of reference to its next session, pending consideration of a work programme and budget for the capacity-building courses.

(xi) Work programme

35. The Committee was briefed on the work programme for the implementation of General Assembly resolution 47/199 and Economic and Social Council resolution 1994/33. It was agreed that interested organizations would submit their comments on the work programme to the United Nations before March 1995, when it would be updated.

(b) Preparation of the 1995 comprehensive triennial policy review

36. The representative of the United Nations introduced a note on the preparation of the 1995 comprehensive triennial policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system. The deadline of April 1995 for the finalization of the report of the Secretary-General gave only six months to complete a great deal of work, including the development of a survey, field visits and the analysis of results. The United Nations would welcome maximum participation in all three phases of the process - preparation of survey instruments, conduct of field visits and review of the data - it being understood that final responsibility for preparation of the report rested with the Secretary-General. CCPOQ agreed to participate fully in this process. Progress would be reviewed in December 1994, in conjunction with the convening of the Inter-Agency Consultative Meeting (IACM).

2. Regional dimensions of cooperation for development

(a) Regional and subregional structures of the United Nations system

37. The Secretary presented a consultant's report (ACC/1994/POQ/CRP.24) describing the various structures within the United Nations system and containing a number of conclusions and proposals, set out in paragraph 66 of the report, for facilitating cooperation and coordination at the regional level.

38. The Committee noted the numerous historical, political and operational considerations which rendered any change in existing structures very difficult. Member organizations were nevertheless invited to take into consideration recommendations (i) to (vi) for greater harmonization in country coverage and in location of offices, particularly in the case of new areas of activity. On the whole, the composition of the regions was considered to be more important than the location of field offices. Recommendations (vii) to (xi) were noted, particularly in regard to arrangements for programmatic collaboration and to possible action by the regional commissions.

39. Committee members were invited to advise the Secretary by 30 November 1994 of any oversights or mistakes in the factual information (paras. 1-60 of the consultant's report) with a view to revising and distributing the report for reference purposes.

(b) Regional dimensions of development

40. CCPOQ considered a note containing earlier recommendations made by the Committee for the enhancement of regional technical cooperation in the economic and social sectors of the United Nations system (information note 14).

41. The Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Europe (ECE), on behalf of the regional commissions, noted that higher priority needed to be accorded to the regional dimension. More consideration should be given to subsidiarity, in view of the fact that much analytical work, standard setting and the like were most effectively carried out at the regional or lower levels. Clearly, each regional commission was different and could offer its own blend of initiatives and ideas. The Executive Secretary cited the UNDP/ECE agreement as a good example of inter-agency cooperation on the regional dimension.

42. He viewed with favour the facilitation by the regional commissions of regional inter-agency meetings. These meetings, which need not be convened always by the regional commissions, would serve to identify priorities for technical cooperation and areas for joint work. With respect to the recommendation that a comprehensive compendium be prepared of all regional technical cooperation activities, he considered this could assist resource mobilization but was a matter for each regional commission to decide for itself.

43. Several members underlined the technical value and cost-effectiveness of regional and subregional programmes, as well as of developing linkages with international and regional

organizations outside the United Nations system and setting up databases. There was general agreement that the regional dimension of development was of critical importance in both analytical and technical cooperation fields and must be vigorously pursued.

3. Programme coordination issues

(a) Follow-up to the substantive session of 1994 of the Economic and Social Council

44. The Committee was briefed by the representative of the Department for Policy Coordination and Sustainable Development of the United Nations Secretariat on the outcome of the substantive session of 1994 of the Economic and Social Council, which was held from 27 June to 29 July at United Nations Headquarters.

45. The representative reminded the Committee of the decision taken by the Committee for Programme and Coordination at its thirty-third session, in 1993, that all system-wide activities undertaken by the subsidiary bodies of ACC that have been abolished, particularly those relating to science and technology for development, new and renewable sources of energy and the least developed countries, should continue to be coordinated by the new subsidiary machinery. CCPOQ and the Inter-Agency Committee on Sustainable Development (IACSD) should consequently pursue reviews of related inter-agency coordination in their respective fields of competence.

(b) Poverty alleviation

46. The Committee reaffirmed the importance of poverty alleviation in system-wide work, particularly in view of the preparations for the World Summit for Social Development. It was noted that poverty alleviation was the result of efforts in both the economic and social fields. The World Bank informed the Committee about its country-based projects on poverty alleviation and indicated its desire to collaborate with the system as a whole.

47. The CCPOQ Working Group on Poverty, which met on 14 October 1994, reported to the Committee that it had reaffirmed its terms of reference and suggested a timetable for the production of a report detailing experiences in operational activities. This document, to be submitted to CCPOQ at its fifth session, would include: (a) a description by each organization of its focus and general activities in the field of poverty alleviation; (b) "best practice" experiences from each organization, whether in the field or based on analytical work and (c) indexes classifying these narratives by, for example, region, target groups and intervention means.

4. Division of labour and access to resources

48. The Chairperson reported on further discussions by ACC on this issue at its second regular session of 1994 (New York, 21-22 September 1994). Specific consideration had been given to the collaboration of the Bretton Woods institutions with the rest of the system, including greater complementarity between country strategy notes and policy framework papers; to cooperative actions at the regional and subregional levels; to national capacity-building and infrastructure development; and to the role of the resident coordinator system. A detailed summary of discussions was to be released.

49. In discussing possible follow-up by CCPOQ, Committee members noted that the division of labour and access to resources were issues that continued to preoccupy member organizations. The Committee's analysis of February 1994 and the concerns expressed regarding the marginalization of the specialized agencies, the effective use of the technical expertise within the system, the decline of the tripartite relationship, and the decrease in official development assistance (ODA) resources for multilateral development cooperation were still to be resolved. Some members suggested that, where there was no comparative advantage in so doing, recourse to non-United Nations instruments for designing and backstopping programmes and projects should not be given preference over recourse to United Nations system instruments.

50. It was recognized that there had been an evolution in the development context from sectoral policy advice to broader structural adjustment and integrated development approaches, as well as greater recourse by countries to the World Bank and the private sector in both the economic and social sectors. CCPOQ could therefore usefully seek to demonstrate effective modalities of cooperation at the field level; efficient utilization of resources by the system, including through a sharing of responsibilities; the established accountability of the system; and country demand for the system's technical expertise.

51. It was proposed that CCPOQ carry out a study of the degree of United Nations system involvement and cooperation at different levels of national development programmes, including (a) policy advice, (b) programme/project formulation, (c) financing and (d) implementation. The study should concentrate on thematic or sectoral areas in order to better identify the different actors and interaction. Clear examples of effective or ineffective action should be provided, as well as the value of joint action over attempts at comprehensive coverage by individual organizations. The study could highlight "best practices" by the system, perhaps in the context of the inter-agency thematic groups established in countries. After some discussion, it was decided that a study of a very limited number of countries would probably be more effective than one on specific development areas, but that the countries should be carefully selected in order to reflect relative standard development problems and involve a sufficient "critical mass" of United Nations development system agencies.

52. The representative of the United Nations reported that the Secretary-General was required by General Assembly resolution 47/199 to report on the division of labour at the field level and that such studies could be incorporated in the questionnaire survey and field visits to be conducted in early 1995. The results of the studies could be referred to CCPOQ for analysis by a consultant. CCPOQ members concurred with such an approach and agreed to assist in formulating an

appropriate questionnaire. The overall assessment could be reported to CCPOQ at its inter-sessional meeting in April 1995.

53. The Committee agreed to a proposal by the Secretary to initiate a study by a consultant of the resource flows and trends for development cooperation within the United Nations system. Such a study could suggest ways of organizing in a more comprehensive, comparable and analytical format the data provided through current financial reporting and of facilitating comparison with non-United Nations system aid flows. The results of the study could then be taken up by other competent bodies for future processing.

5. Support costs

54. The Chairman of the CCPOQ Task Force on Support Costs introduced a report covering the period December 1993 to September 1994. Subjects covered included the evaluation of UNDP successor arrangements, a cost measurement study and administrative and operational services rates, as well as an exchange of information on support costs for technical cooperation financed by other sources of funds. Following the change in UNDP practices, there was an obvious need for inter-agency agreement on this latter issue, in order to avoid a multitude of different practices within the system.

55. Three additional areas were introduced for future discussion by the Task Force: full-cost budgeting rather than adding support costs separately; use of administrative and operational services rates for reimbursement of support costs for non-UNDP-financed activities; and the extent of actual cost covered by reimbursements.

56. CCPOQ endorsed a continued examination of these areas as well as the convening of joint meetings with members of the Consultative Committee on Administrative Questions (Financial and Budgetary Questions) (CCAQ(FB)) on issues of common interest.

6. Reports of subcommittees

(a) Subcommittee on Nutrition

57. The Secretary introduced the report of the ACC Subcommittee on Nutrition on its twenty-first session (7-11 March 1994). CCPOQ reviewed and endorsed the conclusions of the Subcommittee as contained in part I of its report and took note of the proposed agenda and dates for the twenty-second session (Washington, D.C., 12 to 16 June 1995).

(b) Subcommittee on Rural Development

58. In reviewing the report of the Subcommittee on Rural Development on its twenty-second session (Rome, 11-13 May 1994), CCPOQ noted that at present there was no serving Chairperson or Secretary of the Subcommittee. While the Committee agreed that these positions had to be

filled according to standard ACC practice, the Subcommittee had also proposed a revised mandate for the consideration of CCPOQ.

59. Some concern was expressed by the Committee about the continued relevance of a subcommittee dealing strictly with rural development. The Committee decided to request the Subcommittee to conduct a further review of its tasks and terms of reference, including the expected date of completion of such tasks. It took note of the proposed date and venue for the Subcommittee's twenty-third session (Paris, May 1995).

(c) Subcommittee on Statistical Activities

60. The Secretary of the ACC Subcommittee on Statistical Activities introduced the report on its twenty-eighth session (Rome, 8-10 June 1994). In this connection, he noted that the ACC Subcommittee on Demographic Estimates and Projections, which reports to it, met later (28-30 June 1994) and its report was therefore reviewed by the bureau of the Subcommittee on Statistical Activities prior to its submission to CCPOQ.

61. A question was raised as to whether the Subcommittee could assist CCPOQ in carrying out the proposed study on financial flows and resources for development (see para. 53). The Secretary considered that such efforts, while remaining outside the purview of the Subcommittee, could be pursued by individual members in a position to offer assistance.

62. The Committee also discussed means the Subcommittee could employ to harmonize statistical information. It was suggested that data be more widely disseminated to a broader spectrum of users, and that the underpinnings of the criteria utilized could be detailed.

63. CCPOQ agreed to the recommendations concerning the establishment of the Subcommittee's bureau and its composition, and took note of the revised dates, venue and agenda of the Subcommittee's twenty-ninth session (Geneva, June 1995).

(d) Subcommittee on Demographic Estimates and Projections

64. The Secretary of the ACC Subcommittee on Demographic Estimates and Projections introduced the report on its eighteenth session (New York, 28-30 June 1994). He stressed the view of the Subcommittee that its work should be as accurate and wide-ranging as possible, and expressed concern that the regional commissions were facing budgetary restraints in attending the sessions. The Subcommittee had noted the proposal of the Subcommittee on Statistical Activities that outside organizations such as the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) and the Statistical Office of the European Communities (EUROSTAT) should be involved with its work and would review the issue at its next session.

65. CCPOQ took note of the designation of Mr. Loganaden Naiken (Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)) as Chairman of the Subcommittee for the period June 1994 to June 1996, and of the proposed dates and venue for the nineteenth session (WHO headquarters, Geneva, June 1996). It encouraged the regional commissions to explore methods for participating fully in the Subcommittee's work.

(e) Subcommittee on Drug Control

66. The representative of the United Nations International Drug Control Programme (UNDCP) briefed the Committee on the second session of the Subcommittee on Drug Control (Vienna, 5-7 September 1994), noting that the proposed dates for its next session had been changed to the end of July 1995.

67. The Committee underscored the need for adequate preparation of ACC's consideration of the issue of drug control at its first regular session of 1995 (Vienna, 27-28 February 1995). UNDCP was requested to prepare an appropriate draft paper in consultation with members of the Subcommittee, for review by CCPOQ at its first regular session of 1995. The paper should take into account the conclusions of the Economic and Social Council on the subject as well as the proposals contained in the Subcommittee's report for broadening the substantive debate on the drug control issue.

68. The Committee took note of the Subcommittee's proposal to convene its next regular session in Geneva from 31 July to 2 August 1995.

7. Role and functioning of CCPOQ

(a) Report of the Secretary

69. The Secretary presented his report on activities since the first regular session of 1994 (ACC/1994/POQ/CRP.32). He added that selection of a candidate for the secretariat's new programme officer post was well advanced and should be completed in the near future in consultation with the Chairperson.

(b) Future programme of work

70. The Committee reviewed its work programme for 1994-1995 and agreed to focus its agenda as far as possible on selected key issues of concern to ACC and legislative bodies, on which CCPOQ could make a specific contribution. In this respect, it noted that CCPOQ had, de facto, assumed the functions of the former Inter-Agency Consultation on the Follow-up of the Substantial New Programme of Action for the 1980s for the Least Developed Countries and recommended that the lead agency, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), could instead convene inter-agency meetings, as required, for the 1995 global mid-term review of the Programme of Action. The Secretary was requested to determine the inter-agency and CCPOQ input that may be required for the parallel mid-term review of the International Development Strategy for the Fourth United Nations Development Decade.

71. With respect to the follow-up to global conferences, the importance of developing a coordinated system-wide response was underscored, which would also assist to reduce the burden of reporting of developing countries. It was also considered important, in this connection, to examine the linkages among the conferences.

72. With respect to the Committee's review of the issue of science and technology for development, members were requested to transmit to UNDP (BREA/ICEPO) by 15 November 1994 a brief report on their approach to the issue, for consolidation into a document for review by CCPOQ at its next session, when the question of establishing a working group on this subject would be considered.

73. The Committee took note of the need for an inter-sessional CCPOQ meeting in late April 1995, particularly in order to review the draft report of the Secretary-General for the triennial policy review of operational activities for development.

8. Other matters

74. The Secretary informed the Committee that a working group would have to be convened in mid-January 1995 to review and finalize the draft ACC biennial report on programmes and resources of the United Nations system for 1994-1995. Attendees could comprise the CCPOQ and CCAQ(FB) secretariats, as well as the United Nations, UNDP, ILO, FAO, the United Nations Industrial Development Organization and any other interested organizations. The finalized report would be submitted for approval to CCPOQ at its first regular session of 1995.

Annex I

AGENDA

1. Adoption of the agenda.
2. Operational activities for development:
 - (a) Implementation of General Assembly resolution 47/199:
 - (i) Resident coordinator system:
 - a. Analysis of 1993 annual reports of resident coordinators;
 - b. Updating of terms of reference of resident coordinators and of guidelines on the functioning of the resident coordinator system;
 - (ii) Country strategy note;
 - (iii) Programme approach;
 - (iv) National execution;
 - (v) Decentralization;
 - (vi) Harmonization of programming cycles;
 - (vii) Simplification and harmonization of rules and procedures;
 - (viii) Common premises;
 - (ix) Evaluation and monitoring;
 - (x) Operational activities training;
 - (xi) Work programme.
 - (b) Preparation of 1995 comprehensive triennial policy review.
3. Regional dimensions of cooperation for development:
 - (a) Regional and subregional structures of the United Nations system;
 - (b) Regional dimensions of development.
4. Programme coordination issues:
 - (a) Follow-up to the substantive session of 1994 of the Economic and Social Council;
 - (b) Poverty alleviation.
5. Division of labour and access to resources.
6. Support costs.
7. Reports of Subcommittees:
 - (a) Subcommittee on Nutrition;
 - (b) Subcommittee on Rural Development;
 - (c) Subcommittee on Statistical Activities;

- (d) Subcommittee on Demographic Estimates and Projections;
 - (e) Subcommittee on Drug Control.
8. Role and functioning of CCPOQ:
- (a) Report of the Secretary;
 - (b) Future programme of work.
9. Other matters.

Annex II

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

Chairperson: N. SADIK (United Nations Population Fund)

Secretary: D. DEANE (United Nations Office at Geneva)

Secretary (Technical): P. LEE (United Nations)

United Nations, its entities and programmes

United Nations

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D. Stillman
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International Civil Aviation Organization	B. O. Asante
World Health Organization	H. H. Wassef
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ACC Subcommittee on Demographic Estimates and Projections	L. Heligman
